

H.C. Burleigh Papers

Griffis

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY LIBRARY	2324	1.
LOCATOR	6.1 / 53	
BOX		
FILE	35	
-		



1878

Dunham W. side by

Clarke 4p

Graffis Alfred, Lestkard con 7 lot 28  
Farmer b. can sett 1837

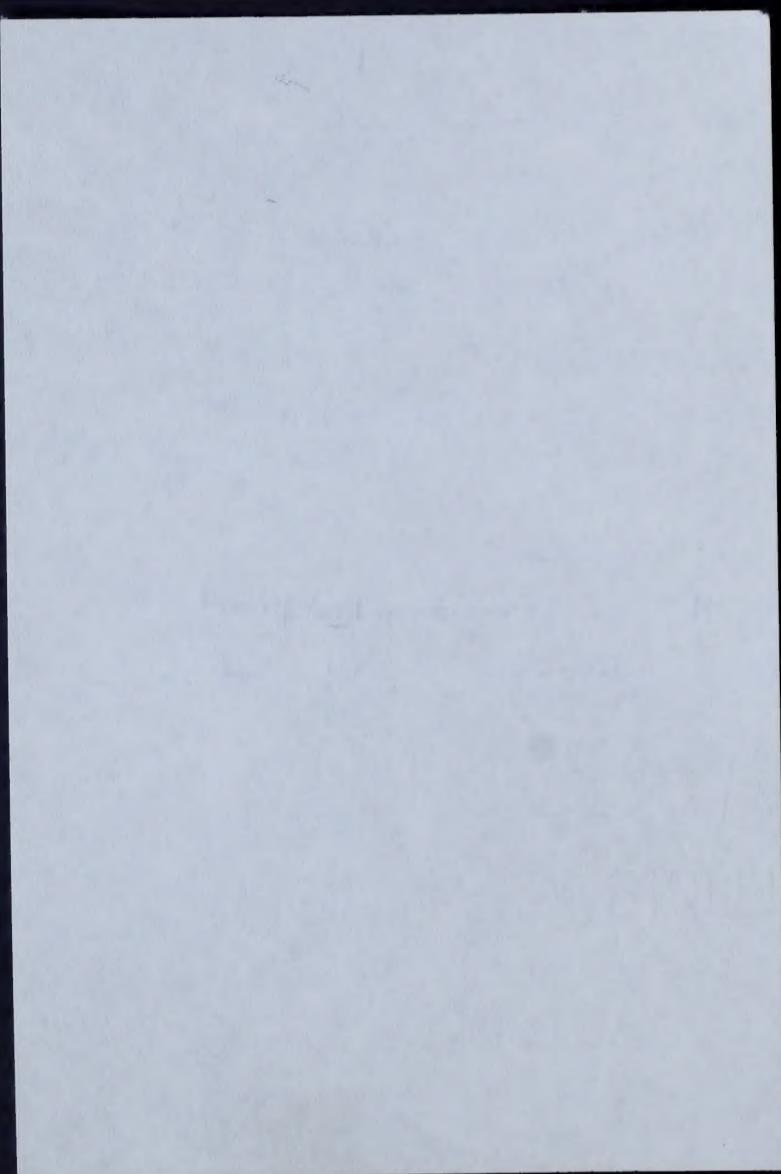
Murray

Graffis S. D. Stockdale con 8 lot 13  
Farmer b. can settled 1870

Cramble

H. T. Graffis conc. IX pt lot 18

Joseph Graffis " IV lot 32



Page 1

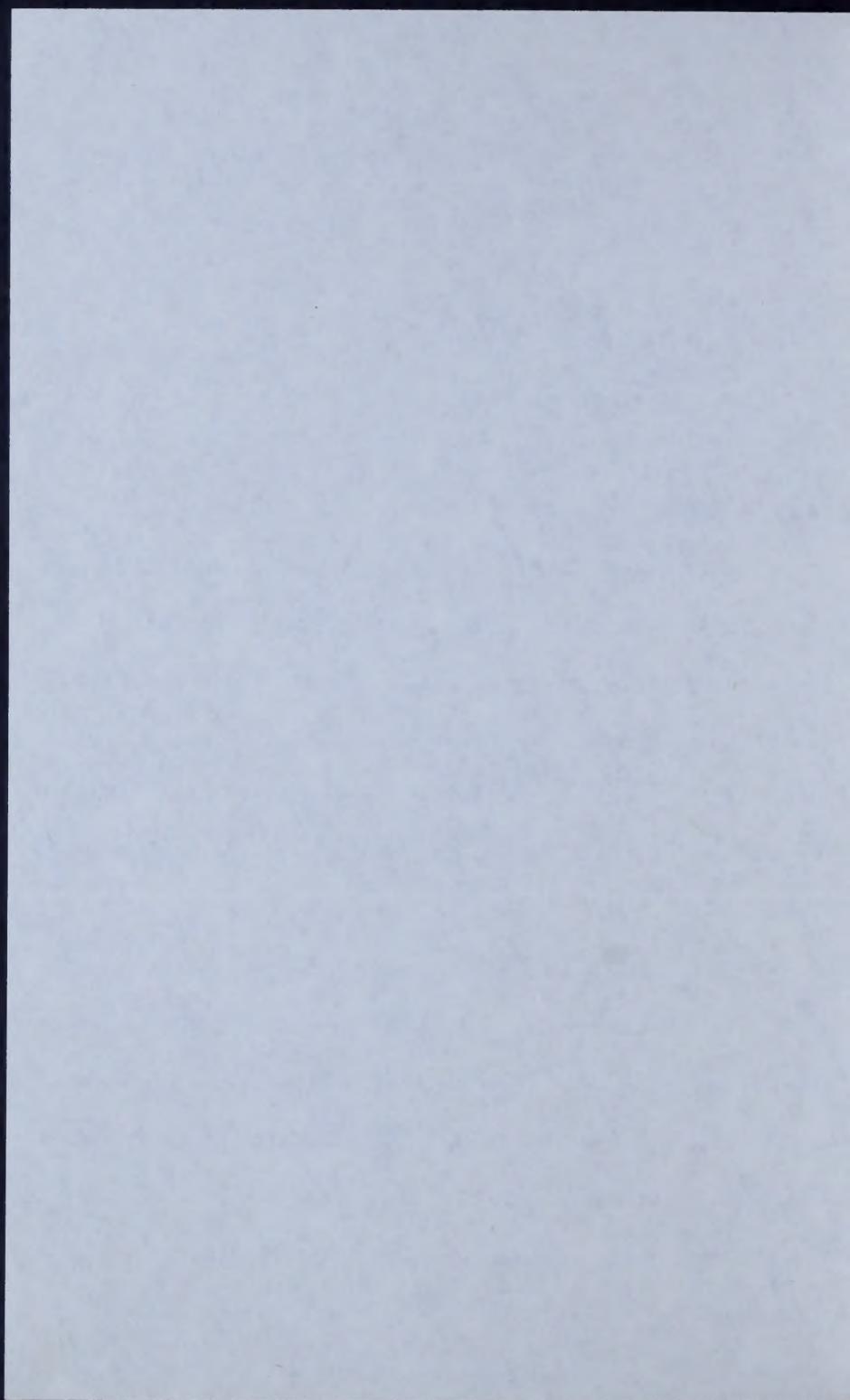
Oct. 3, 1970  
207 William St. N.  
Lindsay, Ont.

H. C. Burleigh, M.D.  
Bath, Ont.

Dear Sir;

This past summer I was talking to you about the Griffis ancestry. At that time I did not know who James Griffis' parents were. Later I found that Stephen Griffis and Anne Kemp were the father and mother of James.

I still have not been able to find out when William Griffis was born and died, or who his wife was and her birth and death dates. I have written to a James Griffis in Thunder Bay, Ont., for this information as I heard that he had traced back our family considerably. As yet I have not heard

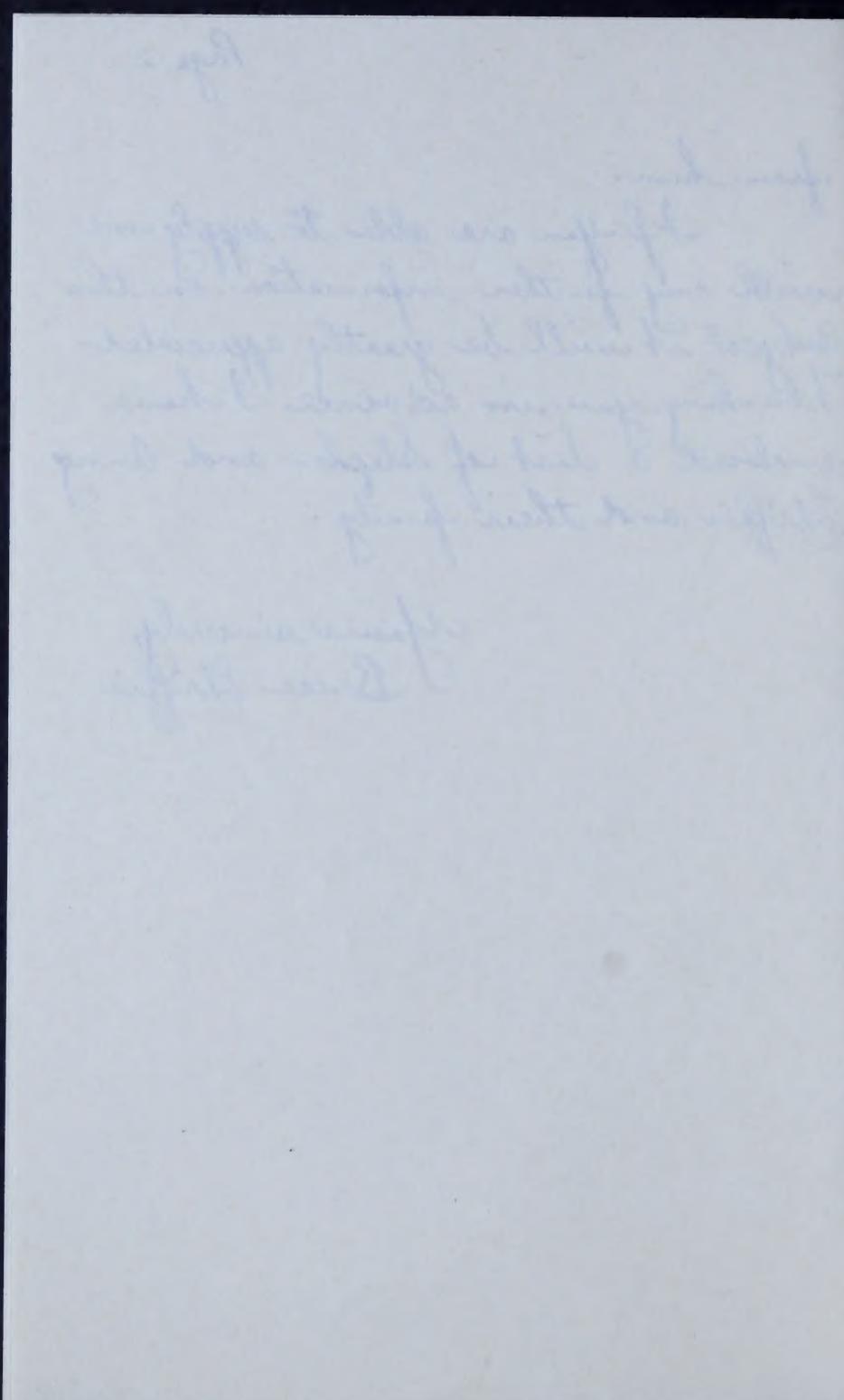


Page 2

from him.

If you are able to supply me  
with any further information on this  
subject it will be greatly appreciated.  
Thanking you in advance I have  
enclosed a list of Stephen and Anne  
Griffis and their family.

Yours sincerely,  
Bruce Griffis



Hough Ser. Bk. 2, p. 17  
1908

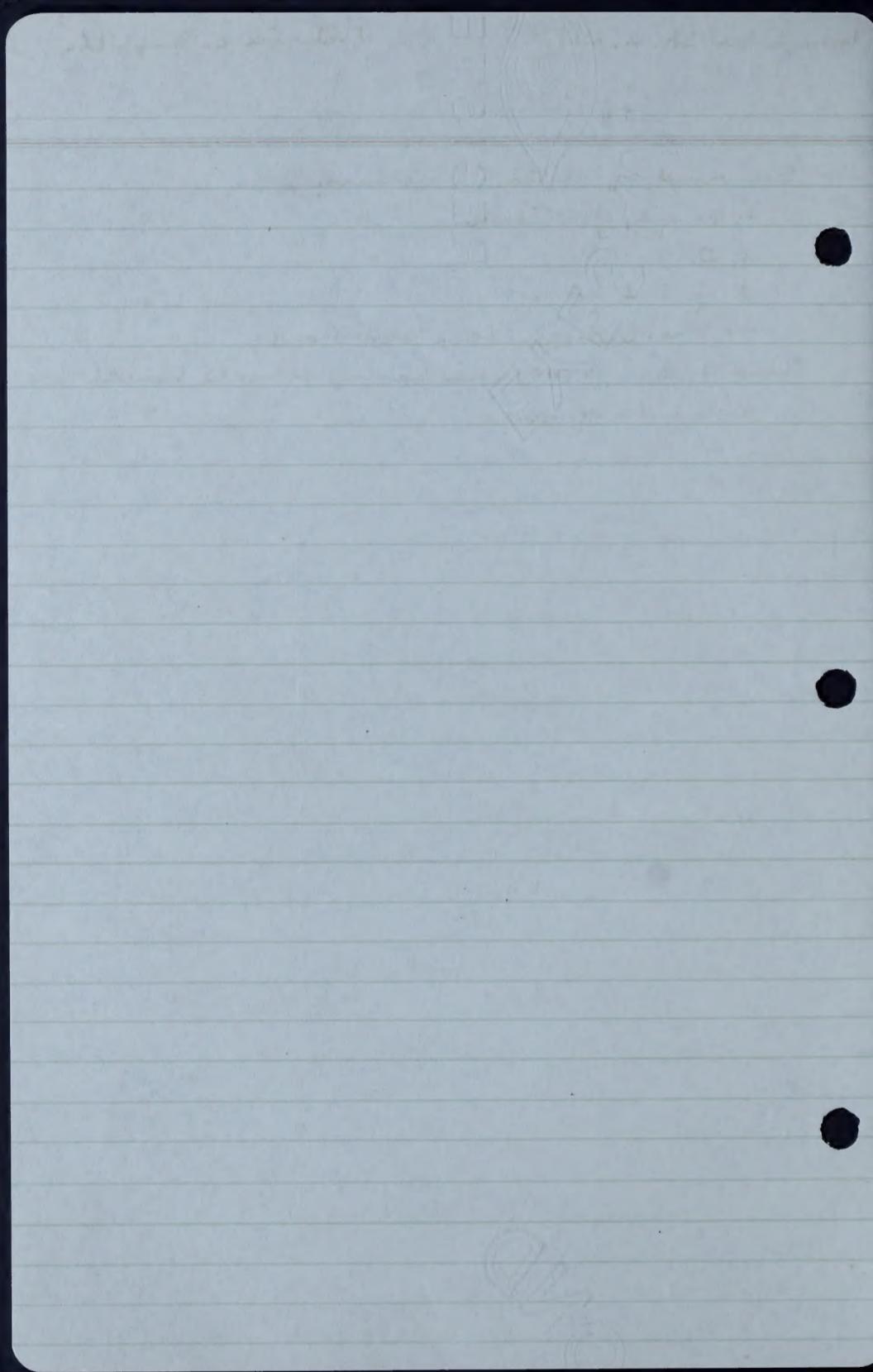
Victoria E. Griffith

of Parma

Survived by sister & 3 brothers.

1. Frank, of Ottawa
2. D. }
3. f. } at home
4. Mrs. E. H. Dunbar, York Road

Died Feb 16, (1908) after having delicate health for  
a number of years



Broughton Bk 2, p. 11  
1902

Mrs. P. D. Griffith

nee ~~W.~~ <sup>W.</sup> Stretton

of Parma

Born, a daug. of late John Stretton, of Parma & came  
with her parents from England

Survived by husband & ch.

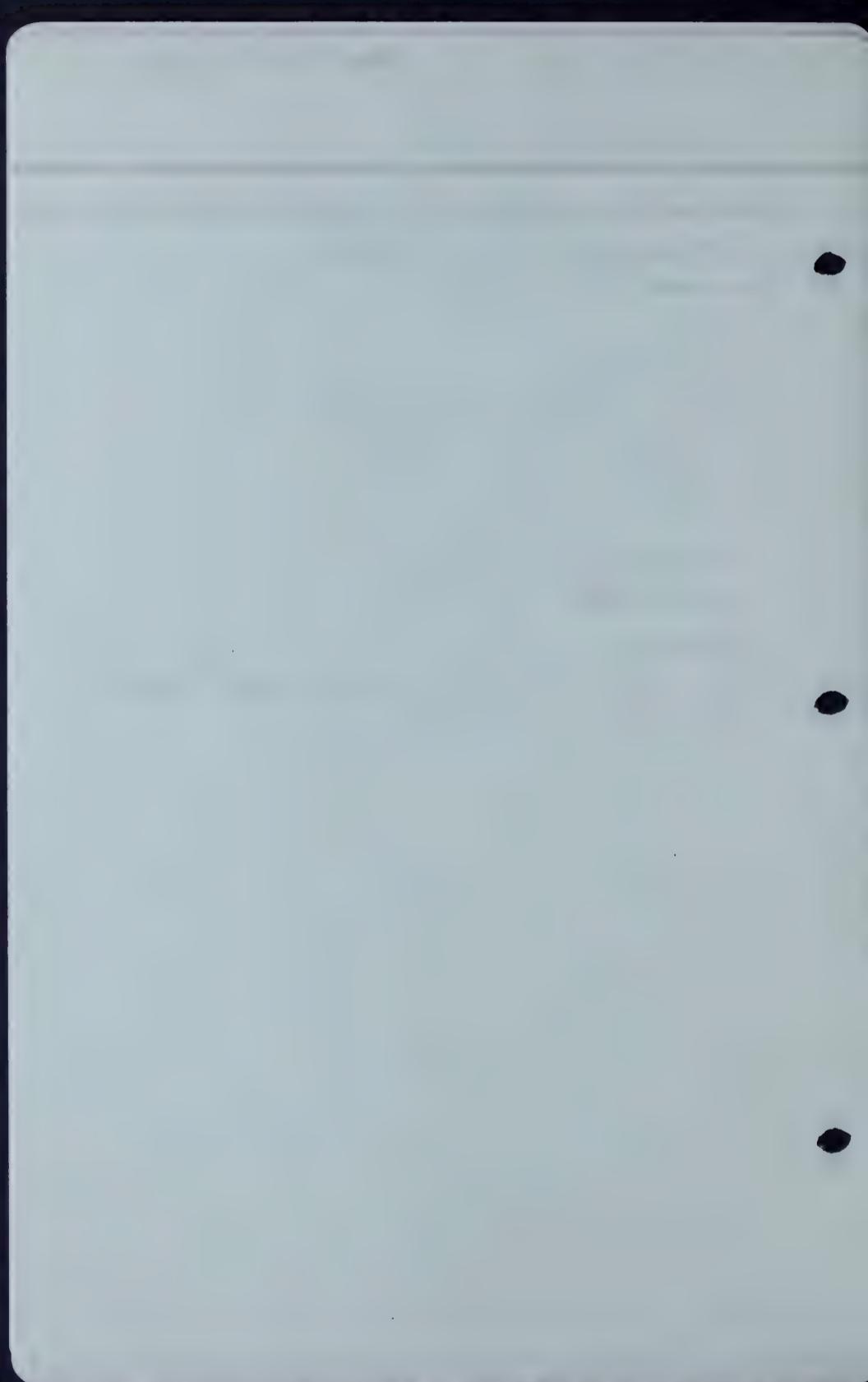
1. none

Brothers & Sisters

1. W. H. Stretton, of Manitoba
2. Frederick, of Manitoba
3. James, of Parma
4. John, of Michigan
5. Alfred, of London, Ont.
6. Mrs. <sup>Jane</sup> ~~George~~, of Michigan

Methodist

Died in her 57<sup>th</sup> year on Monday, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, after an  
illness of nine months



Hough Ser. Bk. 2, p. 12  
1904

P. D. Griffith

of Parma

Born about 65 yrs ago at Parma, son of late  
Gilbert Griffith of Parma

Mr. Mine Stratton, of Parma who died about a yr. ago.

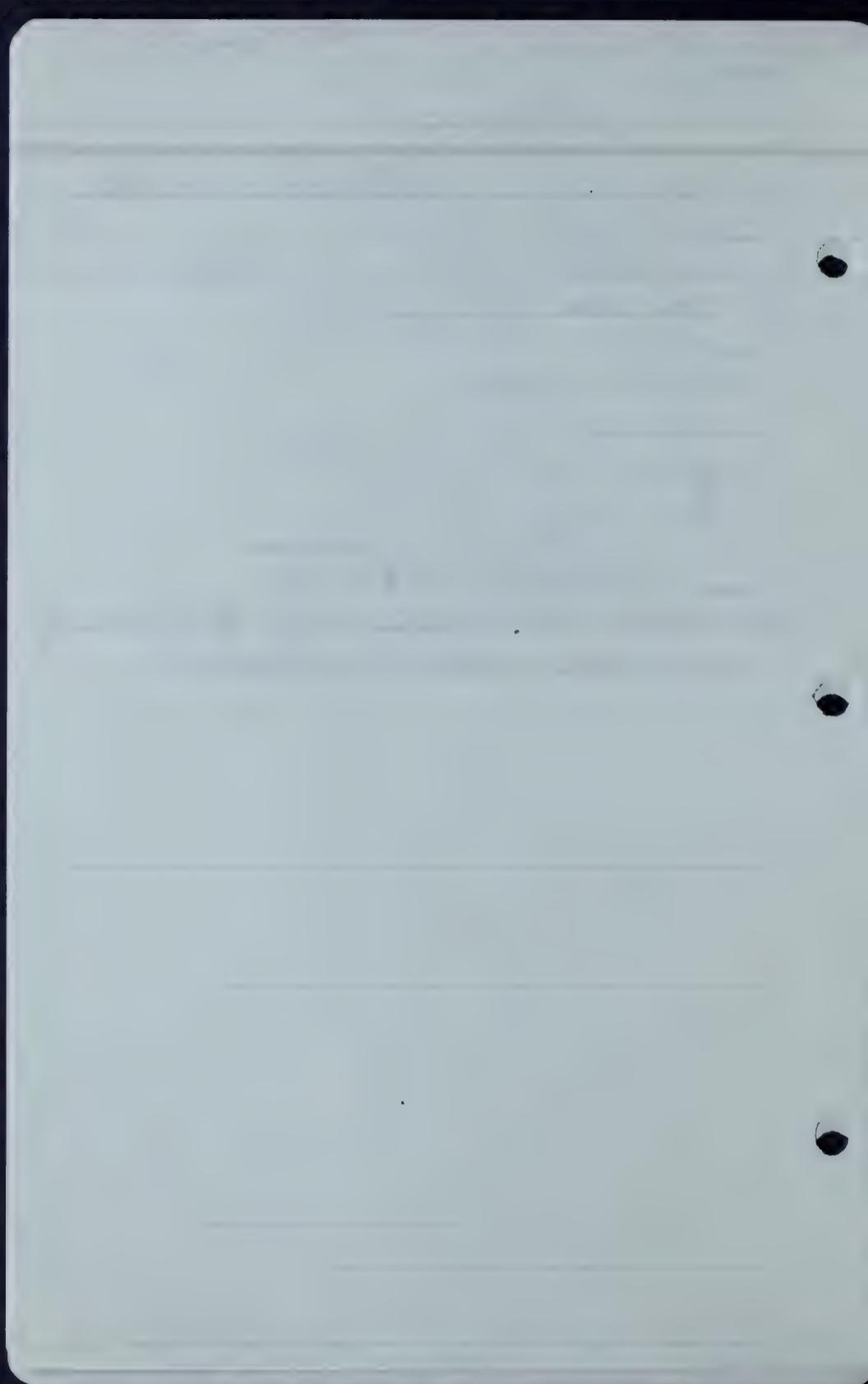
Ch. 1 Mrs. Lester Potter, Green Point

Broos & Sisters

1. Frank, of Ottawa
2. David }
3. John } on the homestead
4. Miss Victoria, at home
5. Mrs. Ezra Dunbar, of Ellows

Conservative, Methodist, & A.O.U.W.

Died Jan 29 (1904) aged about 65 yrs, at the home of  
his daughter, Mrs. Lester Potter, Green Point.



Hough Scr. Bk. I. p 50

Capt. David E. Griffith

of Billsville

aged 80

d. Dec 27, 1913, on the same farm on which he was born.

A long resident of the Township

Represented the Township & County, in municipal affairs.

Graduated from R.M.C. of Toronto & for years was Capt. of the Japanese T. C. 4th Hussars.

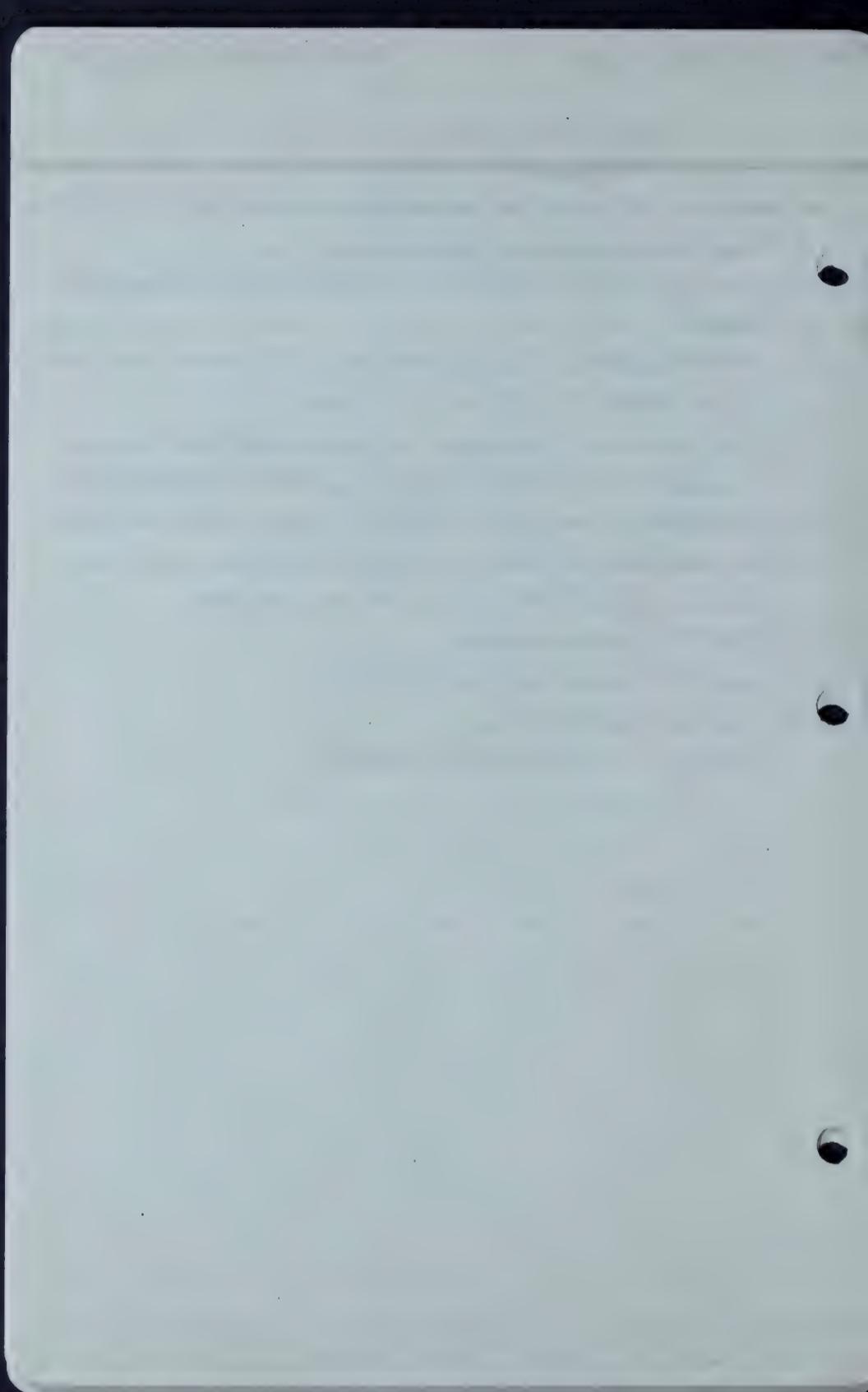
Was of U.E.L. parentage, his grandfather being a nephew of Philip Embury, who preached the dedicatory sermon Oct 30, 1768, of the old John St. Methodist Church, New York, the mother church of Methodism in the new world.

Methodist. Conservative.

Survived by a sister & brother

Mrs. E. H. Dunbar

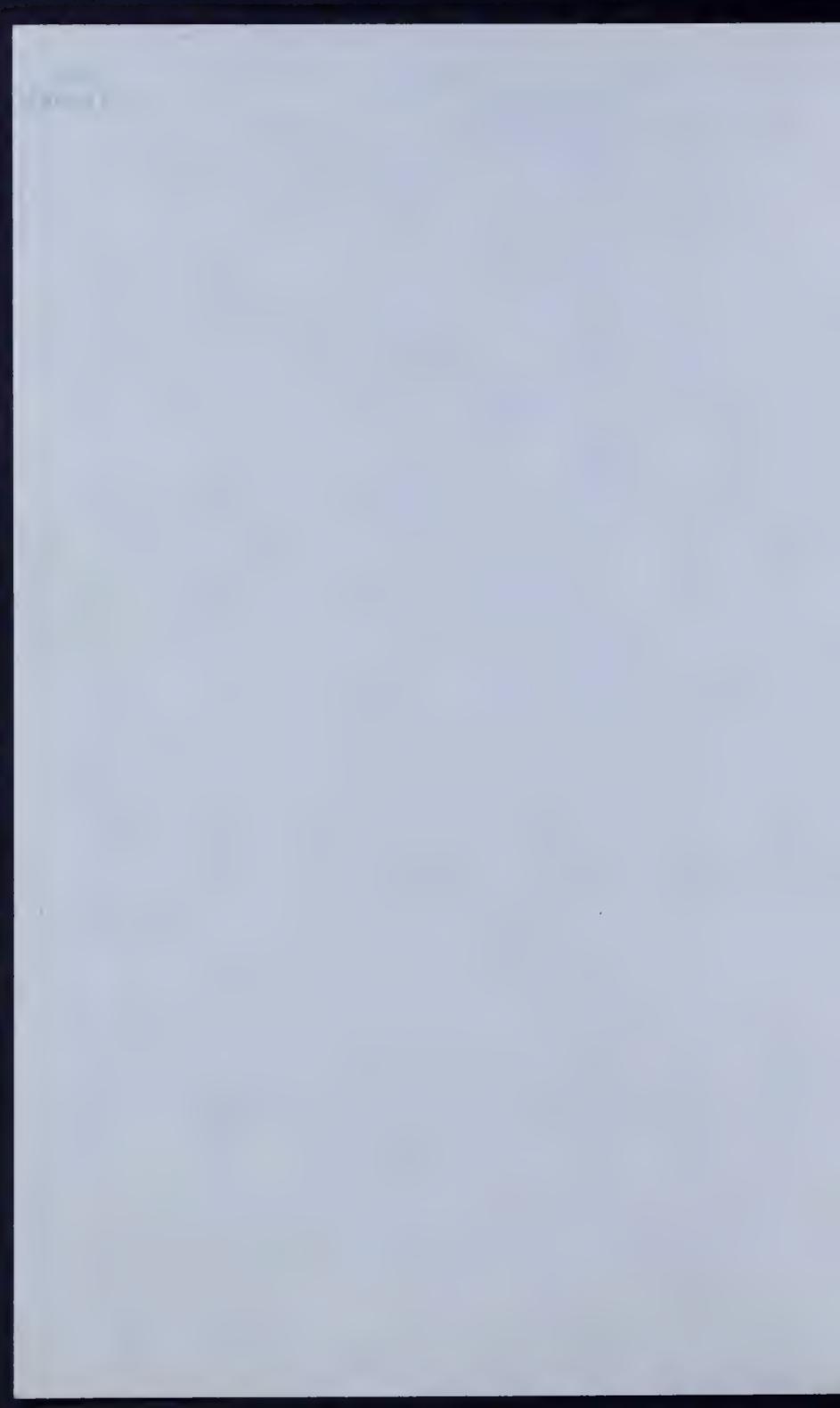
John. on the old homestead



	Born	Died
Stephen Griffis	1772	- 1871 <sup>OC</sup> 1881824
Annie Kemp	1797	- 1874
Mary H. Griffis	1815	-
William Griffis	1816	-
Elijah Carter Griffis	1819	-
James C. Griffis	1823	- 1897
John V. Griffis	1825	- 1866
Stephen Dolson Griffis	1826	-
Eliza Maria Bell Griffis	1828	- 1854 <sup>Vance &amp; Tibbey</sup> <sup>of Palet.</sup>
Sarah Anne Griffis	1833	-

This list I copied did not have  
the death dates. The death dates that  
are listed here I took off the grave  
stones -

Bruce Griffis



Aug. 28/68

207 Wellington St. N.  
Lindsay Ont.

Dr. H.C. Burleigh  
Bath  
Ont.

Dear Sir;

I have been trying to trace my ancestors and was given your name by a cousin of mine, Alma Blackburn, Mrs. Griffis.

I have been told that William Griffis was a United Empire Loyalist who came to Canada after the War of Independence. He had four sons namely, Philip, William, Gilbert and Stephen. One of these four sons was the

Wm  
|  
Stephen  
|  
Andrew  
|  
Josiah

father of James Griffis, who  
was born in 1823 and died  
in 1897, this person (James)  
was the father of Robinson West  
Griffis, who was my Grand-  
father.

Do you have any  
information regarding this inquiry.  
I would be pleased if you  
would advise me what  
channels I could follow to  
secure this information.

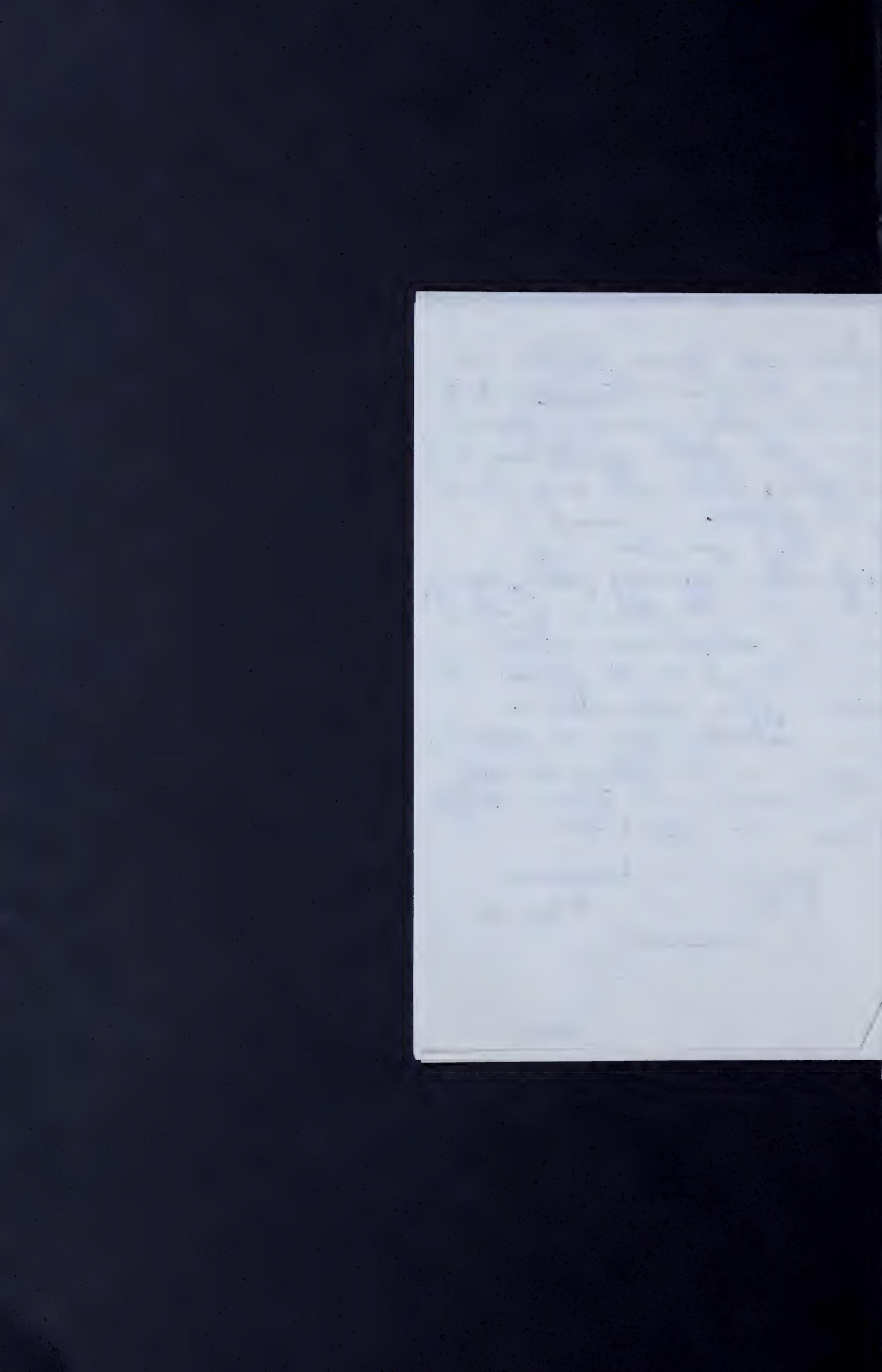
Thanking you in advance.  
  
Yours sincerely,  
Bruce Griffis  
Robinson West Griffis

James  
b. 1823 |  
d. 1897

Answered  
3 Sep 1968

Robinson West G. =

—  
—  
—  
—  
Bruce



May 20th. 1932

J. M. Griffiths

of Ottawa.

An old man at 75 years.

For nearly his entire life he was a  
Methodist. He has lost his wife, & then  
entered in the business for himself. Continuing  
until the death of his wife.

Born around 1855 in Ontario where he has resided  
in Kitchener, son of the late G. H. Miller, by no -  
nated son of George W. By a series of  
family the children have all passed away.

He is Mrs. McNeary, sister of the senior member  
of the well-known dry goods firm, McNeary's  
brothers. They had 8 children, of whom  
has passed away a few years ago.

Surviving children are:

George W.

Hattie

Frances (nee Mrs. Griffiths) - now residing

James - in Ottawa

Harry of Toronto - except Harry

Harry is absent in New Westminster, playing  
for the minto cup with Toronto "Timmins"  
hockey club.

was a... parents, his grandfather being a  
nephew of Philip Bowring, the founder of  
Methodism in the new world.

Two sons & one sister

David

John

Mrs. E. H. Barber

Ottawa.

*Indonesia*  
d. 2011101

24<sup>th</sup> January, 1975  
2730, Central Street,  
Evanston, Illinois

Mrs. Meda Hart,  
Secretary,  
Bay of Quinte Branch, U.E.S.,  
P.O. Box 486,  
Picton, Ontario  
KOK 2T0.

RE: William Griffith(s), (Griffith)  
U.E. Loyalist

Dear Mrs. Hart,

I have corresponded with the U.E.S. General Office in Toronto about joining U.E.S. and am writing to you to ask if your Chapter has a record of the descendants of the above-mentioned man. My ancestors were Lawrence Corson (1794-1869) and his wife, Lydia Griffith (1795-1854), who lived in Clinton Township, Lincoln County. Could you tell me if William Griffith(s) had a daughter or grand-daughter named Lydia? Wm. G. settled in Lennox & Addington County under Van Alstine.

Thank you so much for your help.

Yours faithfully,  
Germar Chase

Philip }  
W. } apparently all born  
Elbert } about 1790-1800  
Stephen }

one of these m. c 1810-20 Jane Prugh

20.3.1975  
typed  
No aday



## Thornhill Baptist Church

8018 YONGE ST., THORNHILL, ONT.

MINISTER:

REV. ERNEST L. JOHNSTON  
119 ROCKPORT CRES.,  
RICHMOND HILL 884-5816

*return*

CLERK:

W. D. MC GOWAN  
10 CAVALIER CRES., THORNHILL

December 9th, 1971.

Dr. H.C. Burleigh,  
P.O. Box 9,  
Bath, Ontario.

Dear Dr. Burleigh:

I never did get in to see you last summer simply because I never made a trip that way, but I have spent quite a few days since last writing at the Ontario Archives in downtown, Toronto. The trouble is, as you know, when you gather too many facts you multiply the conflicts in the evidence. Right now, I feel that I should fill in the family record form, but there is one thing which I would like to clear up first, if I can, and maybe you can help me from that unpublished genealogy of the Van Alstyne family. I am trying to relate the children of Peter Van Alstine of Sidney township with the correct wives. Here is what I know of that family:

birth: reported in McDowell's register, Vol I, for Aug. 30, 1807, son of Cornelius Van Alstine and Rachael Dunham.

marriage: I have no records, but

1. Margaret Meyers, daughter of George W. Meyers and Alada Van Alstine of Sidney Two., appeared in person before the magistrates at Adolphustown on Jan. 29th, 1834 and swore that she was the wife of Peter Van Alstine of Sidney and daughter of George W. Meyers of the same place. Her petition for land as the daughter of an U.E.L. was recommended by the council on June 5, 1834. (V Bundle 18, No. 24). Peter, then, married his first cousin, first.

2. Parmelia Lott is the wife of record for Peter Van Alstine of Sidney Township by the census records of 1851, 61, 71. In 1851 the children living with them are given as George, John, Charles and Rachael Clarinda, ages 11, 7, 5 and 3 respectively. But living with a young farm family in Sidney Two are Iry (I believe, poor spelling) and Eliza ages 21 and 18 respectively. Later census records show an Ira Van Alstine, married with a family, but I never found the Fletcher's (Eliza) in 1861.

In the book Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte, only the four younger children are listed and they are said to be Margaret's. Now I have acquired Eliza's death certificate from the State of Mich. and not being like Ontario it is

a photostat. Her daughter Ellen reports that she was married the first time at age 20 (this would be to Robert Fletcher) on whom I have nothing) and gives her parents as Peter Vanalstine and Permilia Lott. I have acquired from Ontario some of the information on Eliza's marriage certificate, the second time, to Paul Bartlett of Sidney Twp. ~~here~~, on Oct. 19, 1872, Eliza said that she was born in Sidney and ~~that~~ her parents were Peter Vanalstine and Permilia Lott.

AND SO you can see that the reports conflict. Which of Peter's children belonged to Margaret and which to Permilia (you noticed the spelling variations?). I had George Van Alstine's death notice in my grandmother's records and so sent for his certificate. The Registrar General's office came back that they had no record of it, and so I was no further ahead. Do your records of Major Peter Van Alstine's descendants go this far?

In my researches, I wrote down the information whenever I saw the name Griffis (ths) since my mother was Winnie T. Griffis, and discovered something which she did not know, or at least pass along, that she had direct descent from William Griffis U.E.L of Adolphustown and Frederickburgh, through Stephen, Andrew and Josiah. Again it is Stephen's children by Nancy Kemp ~~which~~ on which I do not have complete information. How is your Griffis file?

Anyway, I am going to fill in my application with what information I have as soon as I hear from you, and then I can continue working on the blanks. I can prove direct descent from the Major Peter, from William Griffis and I rather expect to John W. Meyers instead of John Lott, although this is why I am writing you. I have not worked on Nancy ~~Kemp~~ or Rachael Dunham yet. I have picked up one report that Nancy was born in Adolphustown, but I expect it was probably Frederickburgh. Rachael D. was born in New York State (census for Athol, 1861)

I am also working on Eliza's descendants and doing pretty well, too.

I'd be happy to hear from you.

Sincerely,

*Eric J. Lunn*

16 Dec., 1971.

Dear Rev. Johns:

The answer to your problem is contained in the Van Alstine Genealogy, if you can believe the person who compiled it, as I do.

Peter, son of John & Maria, daughter of John Urbanus was born Aug 3 (o.s.), 1801, baptised 30 Aug., 1806;  
married 1st Margaret Lyons; no children.  
2nd Cornelia Scott (b. 1813)  
children (by Cornelia)  
George.  
John, died in Trenton, and buried there.  
Charles, died and buried in Trenton.  
Clarinda, married Albert Smith. She was a dressmaker.  
Aliza.  
Ira.

There is nothing further about this family.

Hewitt's Parish Register, of Bath and area, has these notes:

1801, 22 Dec., marriage of Cornelius Van Alstine and Rachel urban, both of Holphustown.  
1807, 30 Aug., baptism of Peter, son of Cornelius Van Alstine & Rachel urban, of Holphustown.

Griffis.

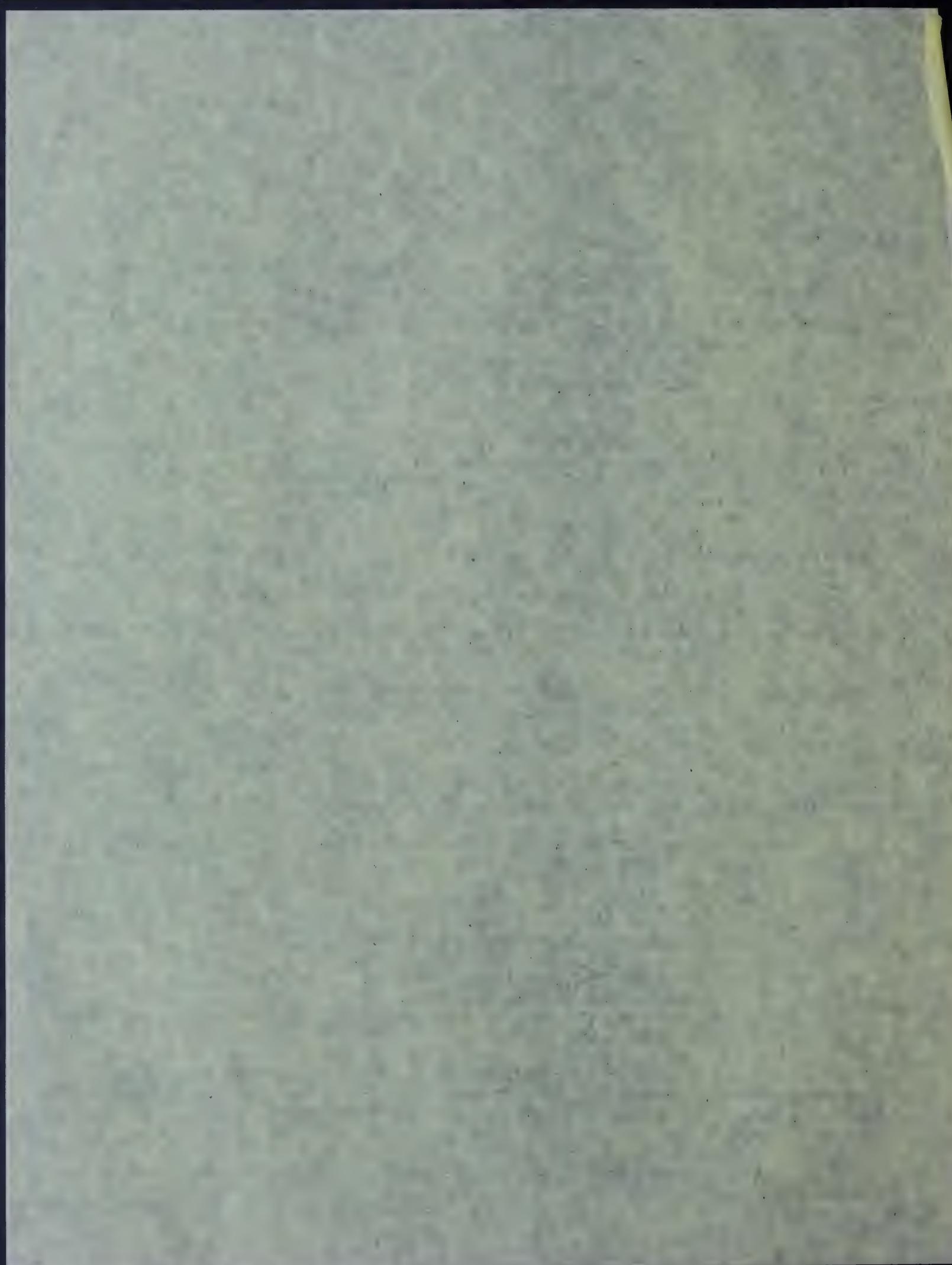
I have very little of value to you in my Griffis file. Mr. Bruce Griffis, of 207 William St., N., Lindsay, Ont., sent me the following:

Stephen Griffis, born 1791; died 1871. His Order-in-Council, of 1812, o.s., 1821.  
His wife, Mary Ryan, born 1797; died 1874.  
Children:  
Larry P. Griffis, born 1815.  
William Griffis, born 1816.  
Elizabeth Constant Griffis, born 1819.  
James A. Griffis, born 1823; died 1897.  
John V. Griffis, born 1825; died 1866.  
Stephen Dolson Griffis, born 1826.  
Elida Maria Bell Griffis, born 1828; 1851. (James D. Toley of Weston)  
Sarah Anne Griffis, born 1833.

Your best bet is to contact Bruce Griffis. He might be of help with the Griffis side of your tree. Incidentally, this Stephen is son of William, W. C. The Public Archives, Ottawa, could send you a photostatic copy of Stephen's petition for land, dated 1<sup>st</sup> August, 1824.

We look forward to your application for membership in the U. S. L. Association.

Sincerely



Philip  
Embury

John Griffiths =  
of Philadelphia & wife  
Gaelia 1794-1814  
James & wife 1782

Sister  
O.C. 1818  
(b. 1794)

Wife  
O.C. 1818  
(b. 1794)

William Griffiths = Anna  
O.C. 1824 1797-1874  
(b. 1794)  
= same  
French

William Griffiths = Anna  
O.C. 1824 23.5.1815  
19.10.1870  
as 64.426  
O.C. 5.11.1833

P. D. = Mary Shattuck John  
b. c. 1838 1846  
d. 1.12.1902  
as 574 qu.

Sister Pauline =

Green Point i  
Mary H. Willcox Elizabeth John V. Stephen Eliza Sarah  
1815 1818 1819 1823 1826 1833  
James a = Clarence Emily James a = Elizabeth  
b. 1823 (Vass鼐 Dusenq) 1830-1903 1824-1913  
d. 1897 b. 1834

4.7.1862 in Cotsaw  
Robertson (wife) = Julia Estelle (widow)  
24.3.1858 15.10.1862 - Eng.

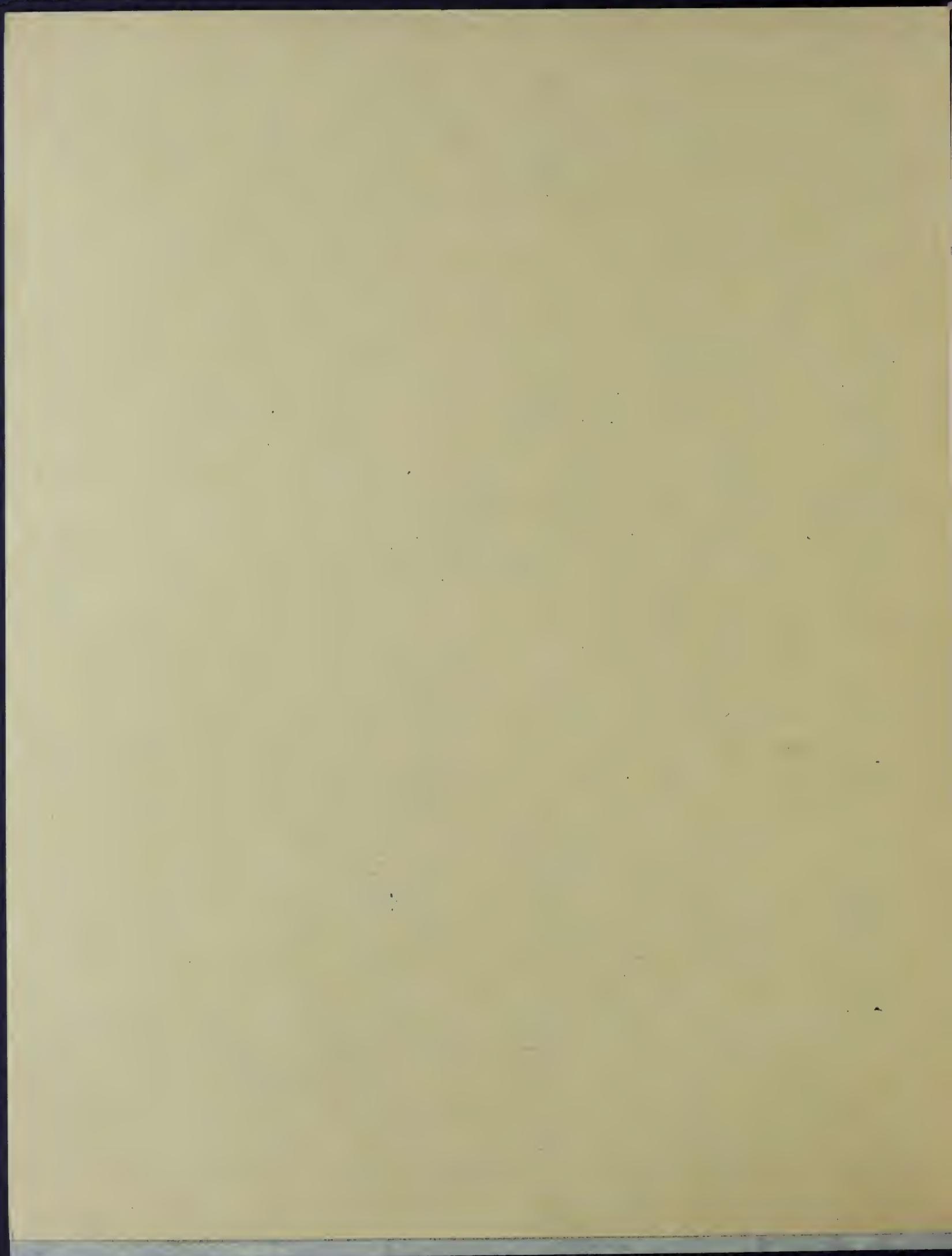
Franklin M. Daniels E  
of Ottawa b. 1833  
+ 14.7.1909 d. 27.12.1913  
= E. H. Durfee  
of Ottawa

Franklin Daniels E  
of Ottawa b. 1833  
+ 14.7.1909 d. 27.12.1913  
= E. H. Durfee  
of Ottawa

Mary  
Anne Peabody

Franklin Daniels E  
of Ottawa b. 1833  
+ 14.7.1909 d. 27.12.1913  
= E. H. Durfee  
of Ottawa

Cameron Ward.  
Griffith Samuel G.  
20



## Adolphustown Town Meetings.

### William Griffis

Overseer of Highways in 1795, 1801 and 1804

Constable in 1799, 1800, 1801, 1806, 1807, 1808, 1809, 1820

Collector 1800, 1806, 1807

Poundkeeper 1801, 1802

Fenceviewer 1849.

### Stephen Griffis

Constable 1828, 1830, 1831, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835

Overseer of Highways 1st Concession 1829, 1836

Fence Viewer, 1st Concession 1838, 1842, 1843

Town Clerk, 1839, 1840, 1841

Poundkeeper 1st Concession 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842

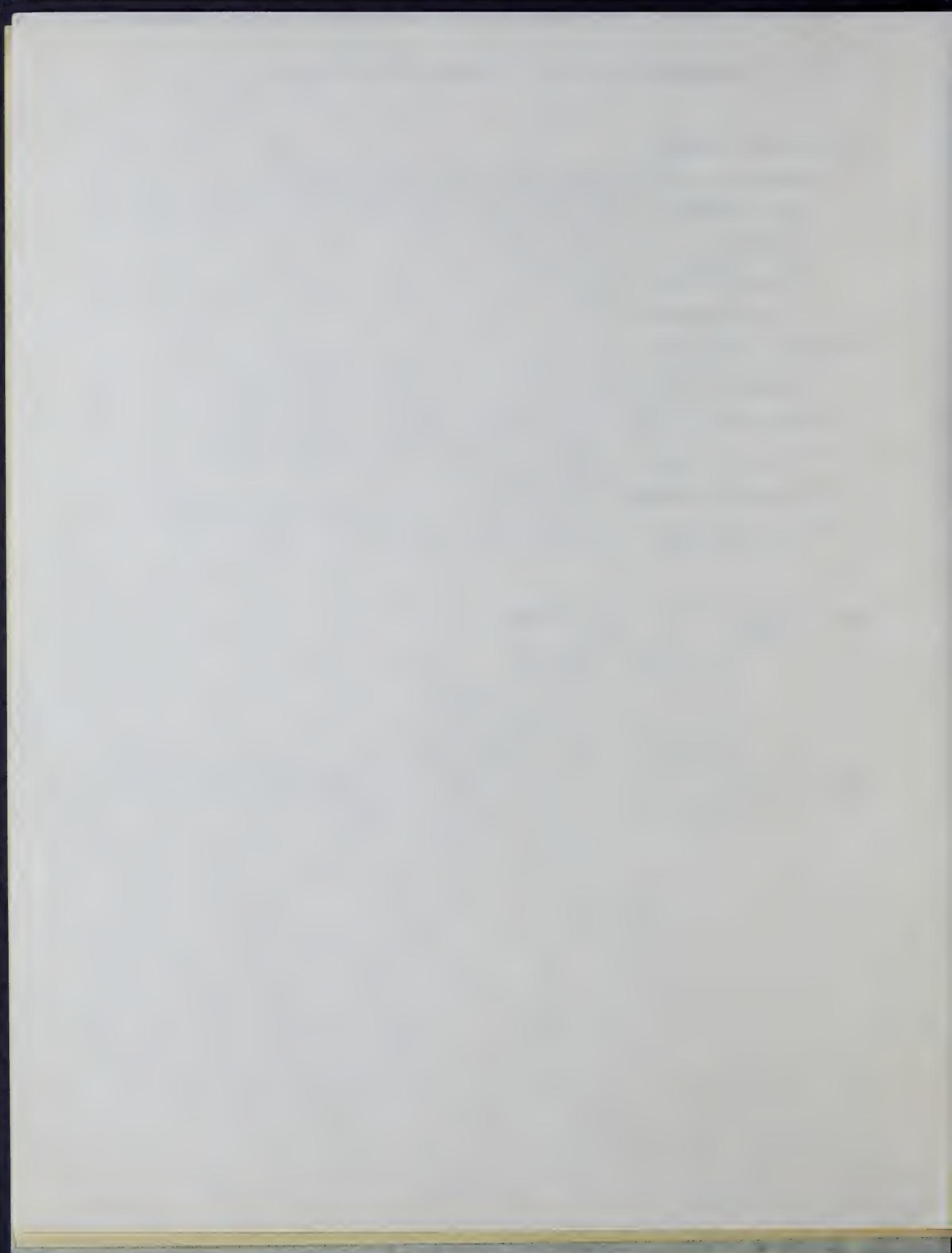
### No Griffis Quebec Plan

or Crown Grant

---

### Register of Livestock

John G. Griffis' Marks.—A square crop off each ear and a  
hole in the right. 8 June 1843



12 May, 1966

Mrs. ... Mrs. ...  
R. ...  
Peterborough, Ont.

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am sorry for the delay in replying to your letter addressed to me as Conestorist of the City of Peterborough, Ontario. My delays occur by writer having several sections of a semi-retired type, letters from enquirers such as yourself, family duties, etc., etc.

I have looked carefully through the file in my cabinet relative to your family, and can confirm that there was a Loyalist named William Griffis, who settled in Molsonstown around 1783. He had four sons of his own, namely William, Gilbert, Robert and John. Little is known about them, except that Gilbert did live in the Township of Fredericton, N.B., where he died in 1811.

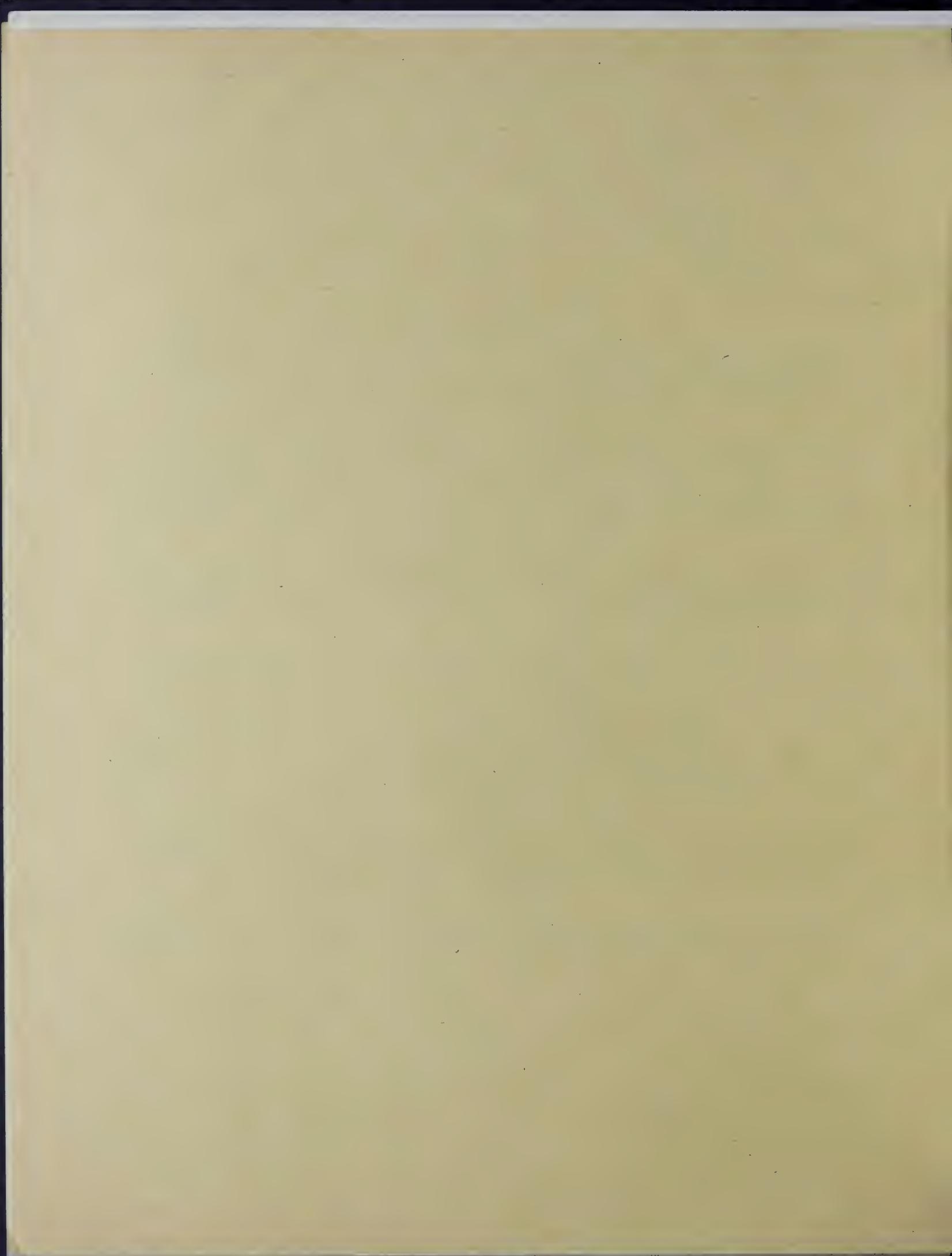
It would, therefore, appear that your grandfather was likely a son of one of these four boys. And, it would be well to do a little searching, and I will be pleased to forward this over to your grandfather's mother. Suggested investigation includes

1. Review of land records at County Court House and Registry Office in Fredericton. In particular, look with wills or land transfers involving these sons.
2. Search the registers, tithe, for applications for land by William and his sons. Use for Census records in 1801, 1811 and 1821 in appropriate townships.
3. Search of cemeteries in Molsonstown and Fredericton for burials.
4. Review of original Registers of the area, etc.

The problem could be found, but both time and money are involved. This I know well, as I have spent many years in this area. Again, there is a great deal of danger and antagonism involved in such a search into your family background, which could easily be discovered.

I suggest that you give the subject some consideration. Then, decide whether or not to proceed, and how far to go. If I can be of assistance, please let me know.

Very sincerely,



RR#2,  
Peterborough, Ont.  
April 4th, 1966

Dr. H. C. Burleigh,  
Genealogist,  
Bay of Quinte United Empire Loyalist Association,  
Adolphustown, Ont.

Dear Dr. Burleigh:-

In 1960 I read an article in the Telegram on the United Empire Loyalists by Leon Kossar.

I do know that my ancestors landed at Adolphustown.

My Great Grandfather James A. Griffis was born in 1823. He is buried at Castleton, Ont. His wife Clarissa Emily was born in 1834 and is buried there also.

Having seen a very ornately illustrated family Bible when I was a child I seem to recall that My Great Grandmother's maiden name was Van Dusen or something like that. Unfortunately it has been lost over the years.

I do not know whether my Great Grandfather's people came as United Empire Loyalists or came from England in the early 1800's.

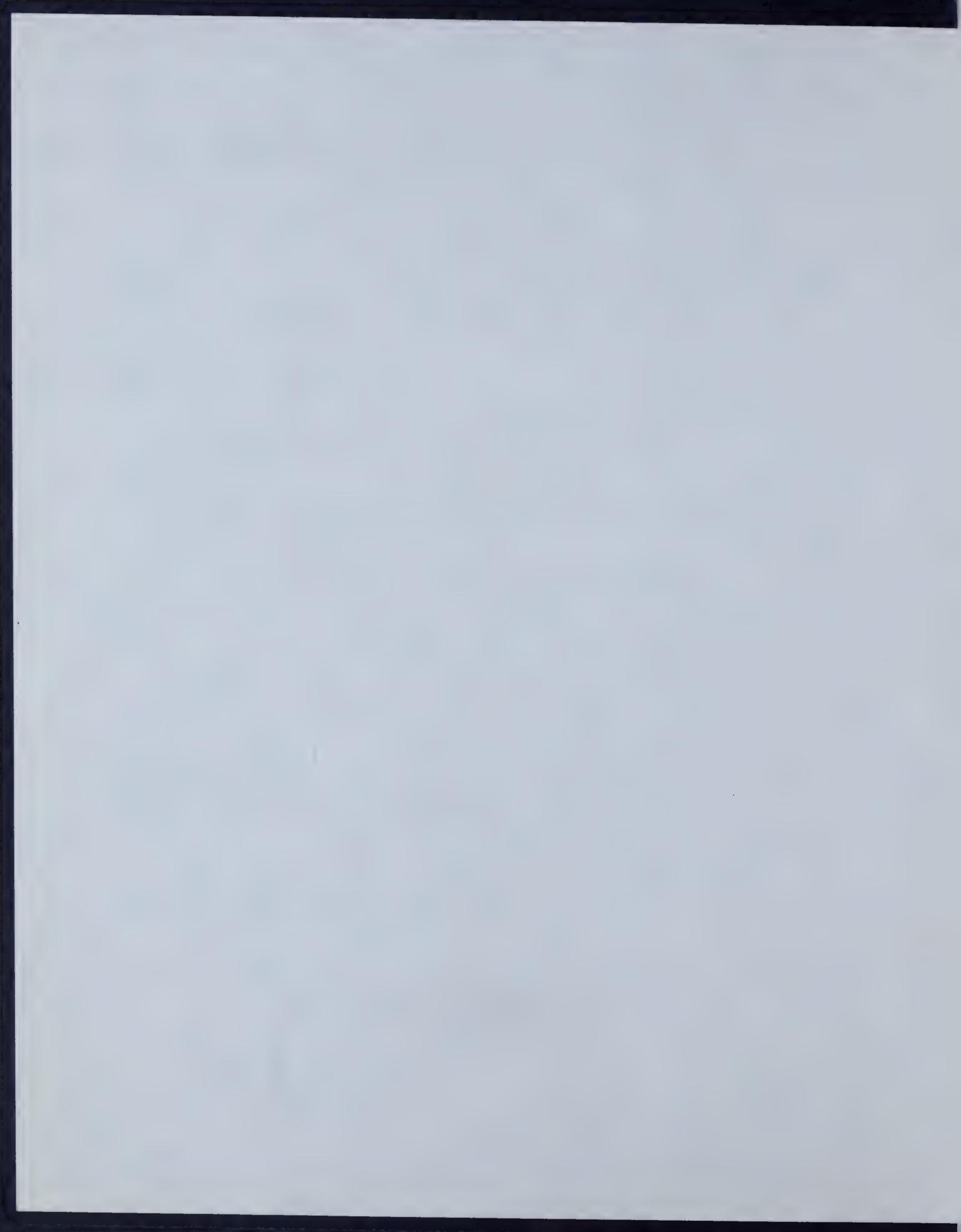
My Grandfather Robinson West Griffis and my Grandmother Julia Ettie Wood were married in Cobourg on July 4th, 1882 and were living in Port Hope at the time. Their birthdates are Mar. 24th, 1858 and Oct. 15th, 1862, respectively. My Grandmother Julia Wood was born in England.

My mother visited Adolphustown a few years ago on a W.I. bus trip and was very much interested but you were just starting the Museum and other projects. I do hope to visit there some time soon.

Any information you could give me would be appreciated. If there is any fee please let me know.

Yours very truly,

*Mrs R. L. Blackbourn*  
Mrs. R. L. Blackbourn,  
(nee Alma Beatrice Griffis)



## Brighton Scrap Book.

James E. Tobey, of Pictou, b. 7 Mar 1828 in Pr. Ed. Co. (No. Marysburg)  
son of John Tobey, of Sullivan, Madison Co. N.Y. who came to Can. in 1809  
& Hannah, eldest daug. of Conrad Van Dusen, sister of Rev. Conrad Jr.  
10 children; eldest Mrs. Abigail Bongard; James & youngest,  
= 1854 Elida Griffis of Adolphustown + settled in Tara, Bruce Co.  
George Serafamy his brother-in-law  
= 29 Clarissa, widow of Thos. Ghent Carson, his 1st cousin.  
d wed May 1. (1900?) S.P.

---

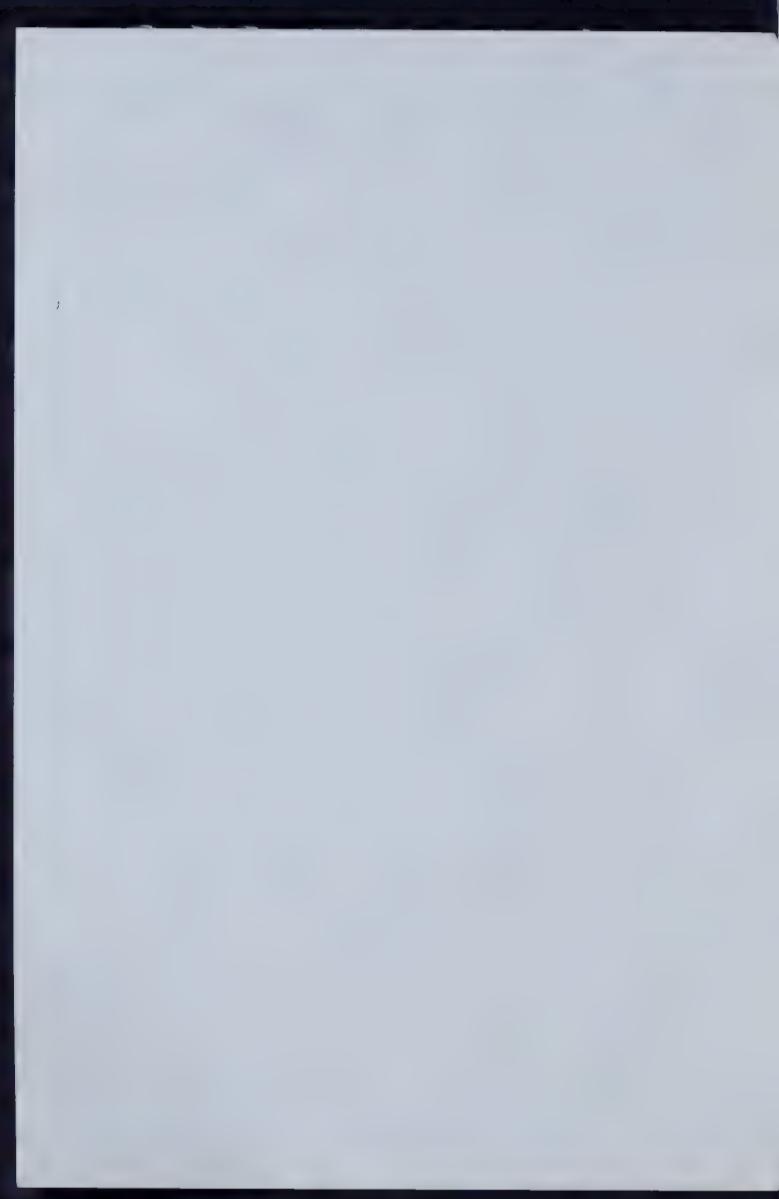
## Pioneer life on the Bay of Quinte

Conrad Bongard  
daug. Dorothy marr. 1st Mr. McGrane  
2nd Rowland Griffith  
settled in No. Marysburg.  
ch. by 1st - Susan  
Nancy  
by 2nd - William  
Sarah  
Elizabeth  
Bashby  
Rowland  
Stephen



Wm Griffis

17	4	1	1	3	0
5		1	1	3	0
6		1	1	4	0
7		1	1	3	0
9		3	1	4	0
00		2	1	5	0
01		1	1	5	0
02		1	1	5	1
03		2	1	4	1
04		2	1	4	1
05		1	1	4	1
06		1	1	4	1
07		1	1	4	1
08		1	1	4	1
09					5 inch 2 fern
10					nd
11					nd
12					nd
13					nd
14					1 1 3 1
15					nd



Cemeteries

Adolphustown Anglican

Joseph G. (or C.) Johnson, 1830-1903

Elizabeth Griffith, his wife, 1824-1913.

Adolphustown United.

Philip D. Griffith b. 16 Oct 1838; d. 29 Jan. 1904

Mary Shattock, b. w. b. 22 Feb. 1846; d. 1 Dec. 1902

Vanderwater

Flora, daug. of Gilbert Griffith, d. 19 Oct., 1870, age 64·4·26



Not in "3" - 1808

卷之三

四百三

Matthew = Many  
Dz. does

Plants  
OC 4-11-1818

W. H. Allen

Adams Embrey  
oc. 1824 | Adams Embrey  
of Philadelphia  
d. 1891 (1876 - May 1891)

one of these = Jane  
Brown

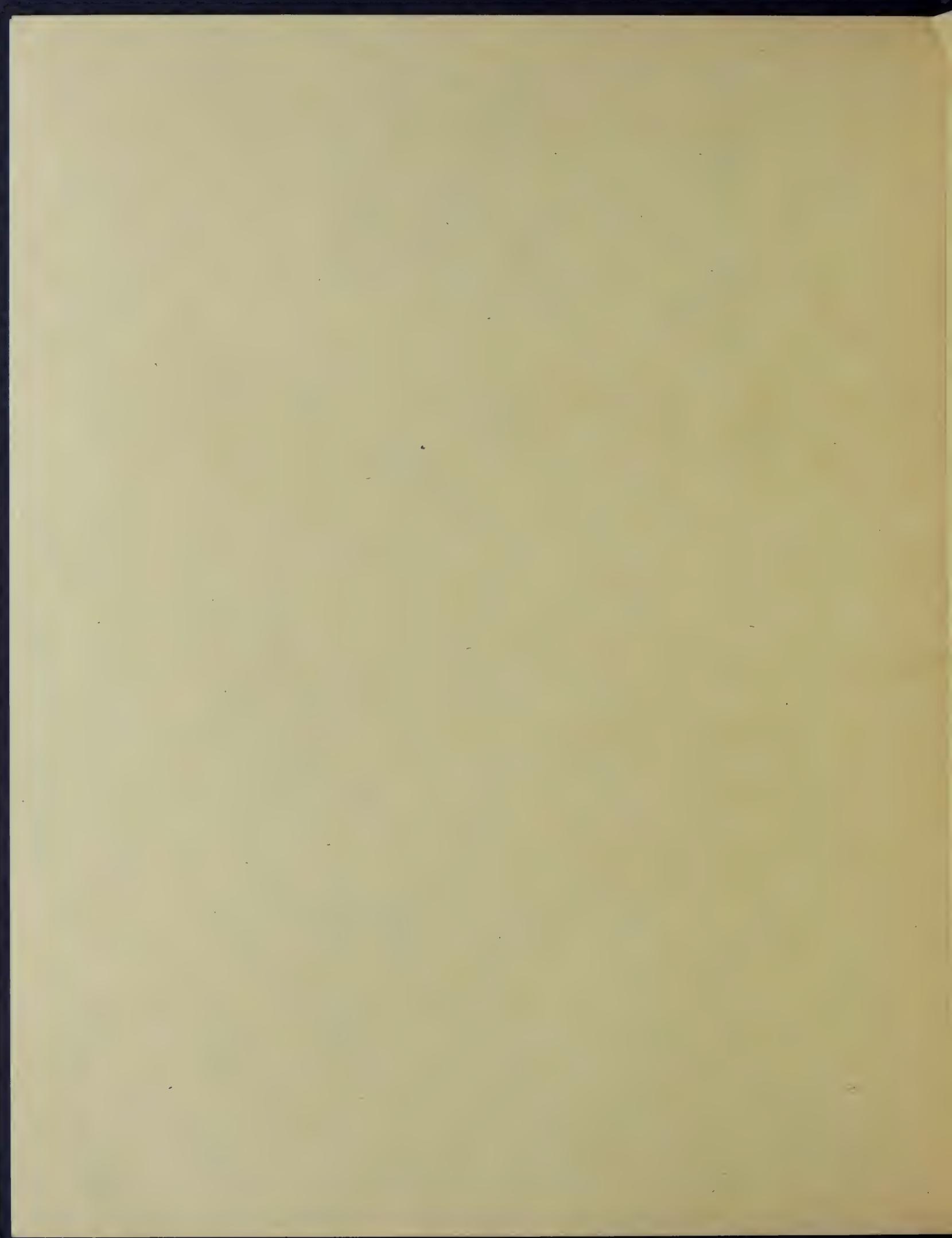
Job a = clams & mussels  
1823 | (Van Queen?)  
b 1834

Frank Nelson E.  
d 16-2-1908  
at 61833

in condition	Shallow
	1-12-04
calving	W 574

814-7-1999

h - P. Brown = Oliver Peabody



Wm Griffis =  
 ♀ 3 + 4

---

Philip cc 4.11.1818	Wm cc 26.7.1820	Gibbel cc 18.2.1824	Stephen cc 18.8.1824
------------------------	--------------------	------------------------	-------------------------

Jas. A. Griffis = Clemon Emily  
 1823 (Van Dusen?) Cant Newell  
 b. 1834 d. 27.12.1913  
 Wm Castleton b. 1833

Robinson West Griffis = ♀ 7.1882  
 b 24.3.1858 Julia Ethel Wood  
 b 15 Oct 1862 in England

R. L. Blackburn = Alma Beatrice Griffis





